

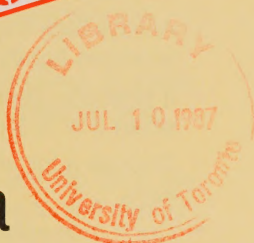
# ONTARIO MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERS

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CRIMEPROOFING



## It's a way of life

Ontario is among the safest places in the world to live, work and play. To help make it even safer, this pamphlet has been compiled by the Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General with assistance from crime prevention professionals.

Following these suggestions won't eliminate motor vehicle thefts or thefts from your car entirely. But it will go a long way in helping to discourage thieves.

An awareness of these crime prevention pointers, together with your own common sense, can help make crimeproofing a way of life.

## REDUCE THE RISK

- Do not leave personal identification or credit cards in your vehicle.
- Inscribe your vehicle registration number on the stereo system, C.B., tools, etc.
- Remove parcels from view.
- Never leave your keys in an unattended vehicle, even when running a quick errand.
- Always lock the doors and roll up the windows tightly.
- If possible, never leave your keys in the car when it is in a parking lot.
- Choose a lot where the attendant keeps the keys.
- Don't hide spare keys; they can be found.
- Never put your name or address on your house or car keys. This will lead the thief to your home and encourage easy access. Your vehicle registration number is sufficient. Keep vehicle and house keys on a separate key ring.
- Turn your wheels into the curb and apply the emergency brake. This makes it harder for your vehicle to be towed.
- Park in well lit areas with pedestrian traffic.
- Park your vehicle facing the street. Anyone tampering with it is more likely to be seen.
- If you have a garage, use it. Lock both the vehicle and garage.
- Consider installing anti-theft devices.
- Have your vehicle registration number etched onto all windows of your vehicle.
- Install a locking type gas cap.
- Use wheel discs that have a locking device.
- If you leave your coat anywhere, take your keys with you.

## PROTECT YOURSELF

- When selling your vehicle, never let a stranger test drive it alone.
- When purchasing a vehicle, check all papers against vehicle's identification numbers.
- Make a photocopy of your vehicle registration and keep it with your valuable papers.
- Drop your business card down window channels into door interior.
- Before driving your vehicle, check to make sure no one has stolen or switched your plates.
- Be suspicious of a fresh paint job on a late model, and persons offering to sell cars or car's parts at bargain prices.
- Report suspicious persons, abandoned vehicles, or any attempts of force of entry to the police.
- Have your keys in hand while approaching your vehicle and check the interior for uninvited passengers.
- If you are driving in a crowded area, keep doors locked and windows rolled up.
- As much as possible, stay on well lit and travelled areas.
- If you suspect you are being followed, make a visible show of writing down the licence plate number, and stop at an open business or police station. Do not drive home if there is no one there.
- If a motorist stops to render assistance, it is safer to remain in your vehicle and ask the motorist to get help.
- If possible, have someone accompany you in underground parking lots.
- Form a Neighbourhood Watch Program.



# **CRIMEPROOFING**

## PROTECT YOURSELF IF YOUR VEHICLE IS STOLEN

Report the theft to the police immediately.

The police will need a complete description. Please record this information in the spaces below and keep this pamphlet in a safe place.

YEAR \_\_\_\_\_ MAKE \_\_\_\_\_

MODEL \_\_\_\_\_

COLOUR, UPPER/LOWER \_\_\_\_\_

VEHICLE  
IDENTIFICATION  
NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PLATE NUMBERS \_\_\_\_\_

IGNITION KEY NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

INSURANCE CO. \_\_\_\_\_

POLICY NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

AGENT \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ANY OUTSTANDING FEATURES, DENTS,  
SCRATCHES.

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Contents of the vehicle, stereo system, C.B., tools,  
what is in the trunk and glove box and their property  
markings.

Don't think it can't happen to you — think ahead, be  
prepared.

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Ontario

Ministry of  
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